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KINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

Herefordshire  
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Joint  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and of the  
Public Health Inspector  
for the year 1964  
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# MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1964)

A.W.T. Bounds	Chairman of the Council
P.H. Briggs	Vice-Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee
R.D. Bailey	
T.E. Bowdler	Chairman of the Finance Committee
W.W.E. Cole	
J.K. Dawson	Chairman of the Housing Sites Committee
J.E.A. Deacon	Chairman of the Housing Committee and Chairman of the Highways & Car Parks Committee
H.G. Friend	Chairman of the Industrial Committee
E.G. Greenhouse	
G.J. Gurney	.
Mrs. A. Hall	
D.J. Owens	
B.M. Pennell	
H.B. Vaughan	
S.G. Vincent	

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer: H.Ll. Pugh (to 30.9.64)  
R.A. Davies (from 1.10.64)



G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Westfield Walk,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

L. ALLEN, M.A.P.H.I.,

Public Health Inspector,

2, Mill Street,

KINGTON.

(Telephone: Kington 202)



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To the Chairman and Members of the Kington Urban  
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my  
Annual Report for the year 1964, together with the Report  
of the Public Health Inspector.

I would like to thank Mr. Allen  
for his help and co-operation during the year.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	857
Estimated mid-year home population	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,910
Average number of persons per acre	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.2
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	700
Average number of inhabited houses per acre	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.8
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.7
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£60,947
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£242

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	11	14	25
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12	17	29
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1.13	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D. (Crude)	15.2	16.5	14.3	17.4	15.4
" " (Adjusted)	17.2	18.6	15.5	18.8	16.6
England and Wales	18.4	18.2	18.0	17.4	17.1

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Kington U.D.	..	13.8
England and Wales	..	figure not yet available

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D.	Nil	31.3	Nil	Nil	Nil
England and Wales	16.3	17.2	18.1	19.1	19.8



INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	.. Nil
England and Wales	.. *

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	.. Nil
England and Wales	.. 13.3

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D.	.. Nil
England and Wales	.. *

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

\*figures not yet available

INFANT DEATH RATES (Continued)

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D.	(Total	68.9	64.5	Nil	31.2	35.7
	(Legitimate	80.0	68.9	Nil	32.2	37.0
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	20.0	21.1	21.6	21.6	21.9
	(Legitimate	*	20.8	21.3	21.2	21.5
	(Illegitimate	*	26.0	27.2	25.3	26.4

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	0.25

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes:	12	15	27

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 0.64	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D. (Crude)	14.1	21.3	13.8	11.4	15.4
" " (Adjusted)	9.0	13.6	10.5	7.0	9.7
England and Wales	11.3	12.2	11.9	11.9	11.5

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	3	1	4

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D.	2.09	3.19	3.17	3.26	2.20
England and Wales	*	2.17	2.18	2.15	2.16

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	8	9	17

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D.	8.90	14.89	7.41	5.98	13.19
England and Wales	*	5.22	6.14	6.10	6.00

\* figures not yet available

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total		
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:	-	2	2		
Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:					
	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Kington U.D.	1.05	0.53	1.06	1.09	1.64
England and Wales	*	1.71	1.57	1.60	1.26

\* figure not yet available

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	-	2
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	3	6
Coronary disease, angina	2	1	3
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	1	2	3
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	-	1	1
Bronchitis	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
	12	15	27

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - KINGTON U.D.

Disease	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Whooping Cough	5	-	-	-	1
Measles	27	33	-	52	-
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	1	-
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	1	-	-	1	-
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-

NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Whooping Cough	70	29	13	126	70
Measles	609	507	337	583	189
Scarlet Fever	8	12	9	11	23
Erysipelas	2	3	5	3	4
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	2	2	1	3
Post-Infectious	-	1	2	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	8	13	15	18	18
Dysentery	3	7	1	62	123
Food Poisoning	14	7	5	11	39
Paratyphoid Fever	-	2	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	-
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	10	9	7	9	7
Non-Pulmonary	3	1	2	2	3
Malaria (Contracted abroad)	-	-	1	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1964

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	10	6	6	14	16	8	5	1	3	1	-	-	70
Measles	27	2	2	14	16	37	37	55	7	56	122	234	609
Scarlet Fever	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	8
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Acute Pneumonia	1	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	8
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	9	-	14
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	1	1	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	2	-	-	10
Non-Pulmonary	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	1.90	0.67
Measles	16.55	6.46
Scarlet Fever	0.22	0.42
Erysipelas	0.06	0.03
Acute Pneumonia	0.22	0.19
Dysentery	0.08	0.42
Food Poisoning	0.38	0.11
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.27	0.32
Non-Pulmonary	0.08	0.05
* Puerperal Pyrexia	1.60	6.78

\* per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1963.	7	6	-	-
New cases notified	1	-	-	-
Moved out of district	1	-	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1964.	7	6	-	-



TUBERCULOSIS (Continued)

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1960	-	22	-	-
1961	1	19	-	-
1962	-	18	-	1
1963	-	13	-	-
1964	1	13	-	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORTWATER SUPPLY

The main source of supply is a spring at Crooked Well, augmented when needed from a borehole nearby, and from a connection made to the existing distribution system at Headbrook, from the rural area supply. This supply is being administered by the Herefordshire Water Board.

During the year the supply remained ample for the needs of Kington town. The Water Board were, in fact, carrying water from this supply to outlying rural areas which had "dried up" owing to the extensive spell of dry weather.

The quality of the water has remained satisfactory throughout the year. Ten samples of water were taken during the year and submitted for analysis. All of these were found to be satisfactory.

No. of houses supplied by public water mains direct to houses:	657
No. of houses supplied by public water mains by means of standpipes:	4
No. of houses supplied by private undertakings:	6
No. of houses supplied by wells or springs:	8

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGESewage Disposal

Samples of sewage effluent taken in the early part of the year proved to be unsatisfactory, and complaints regarding this were received from the Wye River Board.

The Council contacted their consulting engineers and on their advice carried out recirculation of some of the effluent from the humus tanks, and adjusted the rotary arms of the filters so as to obtain a more regular and even flow of sewage on to the filter media.

At the same time samples were taken of sewage entering the works to ascertain whether this had changed to any great extent bearing in mind the fact that the gas works had closed down, and the laundry had fairly recently opened a new extension for dry cleaning.

Samples of effluent taken later in the year proved to be satisfactory and this improvement was confirmed by the Wye River Board.

Drainage

The Council agreed to investigate the possibility of laying a relief sewer at the lower end of Bridge Street, where serious flooding had occurred and the existing sewer was not self-cleansing. This relief sewer would also do away with the intermittent discharge now being made into the River Arrow. These investigations are continuing.

No. of houses connected to the public sewer:	581
No. of houses connected to satisfactory private disposal works:	59
No. of houses using chemical or pail closets with satisfactory disposal:	34
No. of houses using chemical or pail closets with unsatisfactory disposal:	Nil

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of household refuse has been maintained from properties in the area. Business properties in the centre of the town have their refuse collected twice weekly. A side loading collection vehicle is used. A kerbside collection is operated and carried out by direct labour.

All of the refuse is being disposed of by means of controlled tipping on the old sewage works contact beds, but there is now only sufficient space for tipping for approximately another 18 months.



REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL (Continued)

Following the receipt of a letter from Weobley Rural District Council it was agreed that this authority should meet both Weobley and Kington Rural District Councils to discuss the future of refuse disposal in the area. Owing to one authority not being willing to participate these discussions did not materialise. Obtaining further land for the disposal of refuse by controlled tipping is now being considered.

SWIMMING BATHS

Two samples of water were taken from the swimming pool sited in the grounds of Kington Secondary Modern School, and were found to be satisfactory.

NUISANCE

During the year a statutory nuisance existed at a poultry farm on the outskirts of the district but close to residential property. The nuisance was due to an open tank receiving effluent from the poultry sheds. This tank was eventually covered, but serious complaints were still received when the effluent was removed from the tank and during its ultimate disposal on surrounding agricultural land.

The owners of this poultry farm are investigating an alternative method of collecting the chicken manure from their sheds, and if found satisfactory, are likely to install this equipment in the future.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCIES

The existing conveniencies have remained satisfactory throughout the year in spite of excessive maintenance costs due to wilful damage being caused to fittings.

RODENT CONTROL

A treatment service is provided by the Council to both business and private premises. No major sources of infestation occurred in the district during the year, although the refuse tip has continued to be an intermittent source of isolated minor infestation.

HOUSINGSlum Clearance

During the year two sub-standard properties were dealt with in terms of section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Undertakings not to re-let were received in respect of both of these dwellings. Another sub-standard house had been partially demolished to make way for future development at a neighbouring petrol filling station. Other sub-standard properties had been improved with the aid of grants or privately.

HOUSING (Continued)Council Housing

A further fourteen Council houses were improved with the aid of standard grants, and plans and specifications were prepared for the improvement of another six dwellings.

Private Housing

The erection of four new dwelling houses was completed during the year and a further five houses were under construction.

Improvement Grants

Discretionary. Two applications were received in respect of discretionary grants and were approved.

Number of grants and amounts approved:

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
No. of grants approved:	2	1	6	4	7
Amount of grants approved:	£800	£90	£1522	£985	£2190

Standard. Four applications were received in respect of standard improvement grants. Three of these applications were approved, and one was deferred pending a final decision being made on a road improvement scheme which seems likely to affect the dwelling.

Number of grants approved:

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
No. of grants approved	3	8	5	4	2

CARAVAN SITE

There is only one caravan site in the area for an individual residential caravan.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

The main food premises in the town are summarised as follows:

Dairy	1
Slaughterhouse	1
Butchers	4
Bakehouses	4
Public Houses	12
Cafes, Stores, etc.	24

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46

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Number of inspections carried out .. 92

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION (Continued)Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16

Premises registered under this Section are as follows:

Storage and sale of ice-cream	..	11
Preparation or Manufacture of sausage meat	..	4
		<hr/> 15 <hr/>

Number of inspections carried out .. 30

Improvements are continually being carried out to these premises, and in particular, extensive modernisation has been carried out to several of the public houses.

Food Inspection

A miscellaneous collection of tinned and other foodstuffs were inspected during the year, and condemnations made.

Following the outbreak of typhoid fever at Aberdeen, and after receipt of circular letters from the Ministry of Health withdrawing certain 6 lb. cans of corned beef and tongue from sale, food shops hotels and cafes in the area were visited to advise on the withdrawal of these cans of meat. During these visits, six of the cans were discovered and withdrawn from sale.

Slaughterhouses

Only one small private slaughterhouse is in use in the district. The licence to these premises was renewed.

Meat Inspection and Condemnation

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	12	95	Nil	60	180
<u>All diseases except Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	3	Nil	6	3
<u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses or part condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1

Meat Inspection and Condemnation (Continued)

The reason for condemnation of one sheep's carcass was pleurisy, whilst some part or organ of carcasses were affected with liver flukes or abscesses.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSFactories Acts, 1937 and 1948Inspections

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	17	17	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	23	23	1	Nil

Case in which defect was found and remedied: want of cleanliness.



